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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/905,006	07/13/2001	Jeffrey D. Frank	M-11679 US	2520

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, LUONG TRUNG

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2612

DATE MAILED: 11/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/905,006	Applicant(s) FRANK ET AL.	
	Examiner LUONG T NGUYEN	Art Unit 2612	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 7, 10 and 13-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6, 8, 9, 11 and 12 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 13 July 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 19-23 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 19 (line 3), "video images" should be changed to --the video images--.

Claims 20-23 are objected as being dependent on claim 19.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 6, 9, 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 6 (line 2) recites limitation "said connector"; it is not known this limitation refers to limitation "a connector" recited on line 3 (claim 1) or "a connector" recited on line 1 (claim 5).

Claim 9 (lines 2-3), claim 13 (line 2), both recite the limitation "said" in "said hot shoe mount". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 18 (lines 15 and 18), both lines recite limitation "said connector"; it is not known this limitation refers to limitation "a connector" recited on line 3 (claim 18) or "a connector" recited on line 13 (claim 18).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-3, 7, 10, 13-17, 19-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japanese Application Patent (JP 06-301096) in view of Means (US 5,589,901).

Regarding claim 1, Japanese Application Patent (JP 06-301096) discloses an interface device for connecting a camera to a camcorder (camera 2 connects to camcorder 1, figure 1), the camcorder having a hot shoe (figure 1), the camera having a connector (figure 1), comprising a mechanical interconnect (elements 3a-3d, figure 1) coupled to the camera and to the camcorder, whereby a portable video imaging system is formed (figure 1).

Japanese Application Patent (JP 06-301096) fails to specifically to disclose a camera that captures video images in the non-visible electromagnetic spectrum. However, Means teaches an infrared camera is used for detecting persons in the dark (column 2, lines 1-19, column 5, lines 55-60). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in the Japanese Application Patent (JP 06-301096) by the teaching of Means in order to capture persons or scenes in the dark or when they are not readily visible (column 2, lines 5-15).

Regarding claim 2, Japanese Application Patent (JP 06-301096) discloses a base plate (3a, figure 1); a mount (3d, figure 1).

Regarding claim 3, Japanese Application Patent (JP 06-301096) discloses said baseplate comprises a bottom surface (3a, figure 1); an upper plate (3c, figure 1) connected to and spaced apart from said bottom surface of said baseplate.

Regarding claims 7, 22, 26, Japanese Application Patent (JP 06-301096) fails to specifically disclose a video cable. However, Official Notice is taken that it is well known in the art to use a video cable extending between a camera and a camcorder. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to configure such video cable extending between a camera and a camcorder in order to transmit video data from camera to the camcorder for recording.

Regarding claim 10, Japanese Application Patent (JP 06-301096) discloses a bottom surface (3a, figure 1) but fails to specifically disclose a plurality of posts extending upward from said bottom surface. However, Official Notice is taken that it is well known in the art to use a plurality of posts extending upward from the bottom surface to provide a secure connection between a camera and a camcorder. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to configure such plurality of posts in order to provide a secure connection between a camera and a camcorder.

Regarding claims 13-14, 21, 25, Japanese Application Patent (JP 06-301096) fails to specifically disclose a power connection and wherein said power connection comprises a wire

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contained entirely within the interface device. However, Official Notice is taken that it is well known in the art to use wire as a power connection between a camera and a camcorder.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to configure such wire as a power connection between camera and a camcorder in order to use only one power source for the device, that makes the device smaller and reduces cost.

Regarding claims 15-16, 23, Japanese Application Patent (JP 06-301096) fails to specifically disclose a control cable and wherein said control cable is contained entirely within the interface device. However, Official Notice is taken that it is well known in the art to use control cable extending between a camera and a camcorder. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to configure such control cable extending between a camera and a camcorder in order to make a power connection between a camera and a camcorder.

Regarding claim 17, Japanese Application Patent (JP 06-301096) discloses at least a portion of said mechanical interconnect is integral to the camera (figure 1).

Regarding claims 19-20, Japanese Application Patent (JP 06-301096) discloses a system, comprising a camera (camera 2, figure 1); a camcorder (camcorder 1, figure 1); an interface device (3a-3d, figure 1) that mechanically connects said camera to said camcorder.

Japanese Application Patent (JP 06-301096) fail to specifically to disclose a system for recording video images in a set of wavelengths other than visible light wavelengths and a camera

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that captures video images in the non-visible electromagnetic. However, Means teaches an infrared camera is used for detecting persons in the dark (column 2, lines 1-19, column 5, lines 55-60). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in the Japanese Application Patent (JP 06-301096) by the teaching of Means in order to capture persons or scenes in the dark or when they are not readily visible (column 2, lines 5-15).

Regarding claim 24, all the limitations are contained in claim 19. Therefore, see Examiner's comments regarding claim 19.

Regarding claim 27, Japanese Application Patent (JP 06-301096) fails to specifically disclose wherein said mechanically securing is performed with a plurality of fasteners. However, Official Notice is taken that it is well known in the art to use a plurality of fasteners to mechanically secure between a camera and a camcorder. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to configure such mechanically securing connection between a camera and a camcorder in order to make the system easier to carry.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claim 18 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

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Regarding claim 18, the prior art of the record fails to show or fairly suggest an interface device for connecting a camera that captures video images in the non-visible electromagnetic spectrum to a camcorder, the camcorder having a hot shoe, the camera having a connector, comprising a mount comprising a hot shoe mount connectable to the hot shoe; a baseplate secured to said mount, said baseplate comprising a bottom surface, an outer wall, and an aperture in said outer wall; an upper plate connected to and spaced apart from said bottom surface of said baseplate, said upper plate comprising a rear flange extending therefrom, said rear flange comprising a cutout therethrough, wherein said camera is secured to said upper plate; a connector attached to said rear flange, said connector connectable to the connector on the camera.

7. Claims 4-6, 8-9, 11-12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Seo (US 5,801,774) discloses camcorder with detachable and rotatable viewfinder assembly.

Sharp et al. (US 6,587,152) discloses camcorder mounting and control system.

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Morimoto et al. (US 6,774,935) discloses digital camera.

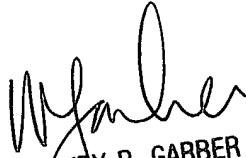
Klauss Dr (DE 3415982) discloses stereo rail.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LUONG T NGUYEN whose telephone number is (703) 308-9297. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on (703) 305-4929. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

LN LW
11/27/04


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